



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Housing, Community and Cultural Development SPC 23rd August 2022, Virtual Meeting, 10.30am

Attendees Councillors: - Cllr Conor Tormey (Chairperson), Cllr Damien O'Reilly, Cllr Yemi Adenuga, Cllr Maria Murphy, Cllr Nick Killian, Cllr Sean Drew, Cllr Eimear Tobin, Eddie Fennessy

Attendees Sectoral Representatives: - John Regan

Apologies: Gerard Weldon, Niamh Ui Loinsigh, Michelle McCullough Cllr Alan Lawes

Officials: Barry Lynch and Brian Hora

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p><u>Minutes of previous meeting held on 28th June 2022</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed by Cllr O'Reilly and seconded by Cllr Murphy
2.	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No matters arising
3.	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No correspondence
4.	<p>To consider Draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements.</p> <p>Brian Hora presented the Draft Scheme of Priority. In the presentation he noted adopting the Scheme is the first step in readiness for affordable housing schemes that will be advertised by the Council and that at national level work is on ongoing on developing and procuring a system to accept and manage applications. He also advised that a proposal for staff for an affordable housing team is awaiting Department sanction. He added that while this work is ongoing, it is important that the Council be ready and have a scheme of priority in place. Adoption of the Scheme of Priority is a reserved function, and it is intended to place the Scheme on the September Council meeting agenda. The draft scheme must be submitted to the Ministers Office for approval in advance of the Council meeting. He then outlined the content of the Draft Scheme of Priority noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertising properties available and information that must be included in the notice • Determination of order of priority in the event a scheme is over subscribed and importance of time and date stamping applications • 70/30 split. 30% of dwellings may be prioritised for applicant's resident in the County for 5 years. • Affordable housing schemes will be advertised separately, and applicants will have to apply per scheme. <p>Brian Hora and Barry Lynch responded to queries on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculation of income levels for prospective applicants • Basis and requirement for 70/30 split • When affordable houses are identified



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sought from applicants • Affordability in Dunboyne and Ashbourne • Applications from couples/single applicants and prioritisation from Cllrs Killian, Murphy, Drew, Fennessy and Tormey, and J. Regan <p>Barry Lynch further advised affordable houses will be subject to an application under the Affordable Housing Fund (via the Housing Agency) and the intention is to have houses for sale below the max loan available under the local authority home loan scheme (€320,000). The members of the SPC expressed their concerns with the 70/30 split in terms of prioritisation of local need but noted the Draft Scheme was based on the Affordable Housing regulations as published.</p> <p>On the proposal of Cllr Maria Murphy and seconded by Cllr Conor Tormey, it was proposed to forward the Draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements to Ministers Office and the September meeting of the Full Council for approval.</p>
5.	<p>Housing and Disability Steering Group Report</p> <p>Brian Hora presented the report for the period 01/01/2022-30/06/2022. He advised the format of the report was developed by the Housing Agency and quarterly reports will now be brought to the SPC before submission to the Housing Agency.</p> <p>He reported 11 applicants with a disability were accommodated in the period covered and this represented 8% of all allocation. This was further broken down as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical 4 • Sensory 3 • Mental Health 2 • Intellectual 2 <p>It was noted that the figure of 8% is below the target set by the National Disability Strategy (15%) but excludes allocations to older persons who would also have an identified disability. The report also showed that 6 applicants with a disability had refused offers of accommodation.</p> <p>Cllr Killian requested clarity on the definitions used within the report and the National Strategy. Cllr Drew queried the refusal rate generally for allocation in 2022.</p> <p>The report was noted and will be submitted to the Housing Agency.</p>
6.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation of Choice Based Lettings (CBL) System Cllrs Adenuga, Tobin and Murphy raised the operation of CBL. Barry Lynch responded that information provided under a previous NoQ for Council will be updated and a report brought to a future SPC. He added the system is based on fairness and there is extensive interaction with eligible applicants who have expressed interest in properties advertised. • Land in Ashbourne Cllr Killian and Tormey noted a protest land currently being acquired by the Council in Ashbourne but that meetings had been held with residents locally. • Navan Hospital



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	<p>John Regan raised concerns over the future of A&E department in Navan Hospital and the Terms of Reference for the review group. The members of the SPC supported his concerns, and Cllr Killian advised that he, in his capacity as Cathaoirleach, had written to the Minister.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="347 528 1415 622">• Zoom/Infac Meeting There is a brief discussion on future meetings being online or in person. Cllr Tormey noted the decision for Zoom meetings at 10 was recently decided by a survey<li data-bbox="347 629 1415 752">• Community Improvement Projects Cllr Drew queried when the Community Improvement Projects will be announced. Barry Lynch advised they are intended to be presented to the MD meetings 1 September and full Council in October<li data-bbox="347 792 1415 884">• List of Allocations Barry Lynch advised a list of allocation can't be provided based on previous advise from the Data Protection Commissioner.

Recommendations to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG)

The Draft Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements be forwarded to Ministers Office and the September Meeting of the Full Council for approval